

REISSUE DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a reissue patent is sought on the invention entitled AUTOMATED SELF-CLEANING LITTER BOX FOR CATS, the specification of which is attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to herein.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose to the Patent and Trademark Office all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

I believe that U.S. Patent No. 5,477,812 is wholly or partly inoperative or invalid by reason of the patentee claiming less than the patentee had the right to claim in the patent. In particular, claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 5,477,812 contains recitations regarding a cat exit sensor and delay means which are too limiting of the invention and unnecessary in view of the

prior art. Claims 23 and 28 of the attached reissue application have limitations similar to those of claim 1, but define the invention with greater breadth.

All errors being corrected in the attached reissue application arose without any deceptive intention on the part of the applicant.

As a named inventor, I hereby appoint: Gary M. Hoffman, Reg. No. 26,411; Donald A. Gregory, Reg. No. 28,954; Thomas J. D'Amico, Reg. No. 28,371; Jon D. Grossman, Reg. No. 32,699; James W. Brady, Jr., Reg. No. 32,115; Mark J. Thronson, Reg. No. 33,082; and Richard J. Veltman, Reg. No. 36,957, my attorneys with full power of substitution and revocation to prosecute this application and to receive correspondence from and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

Address all correspondence to:

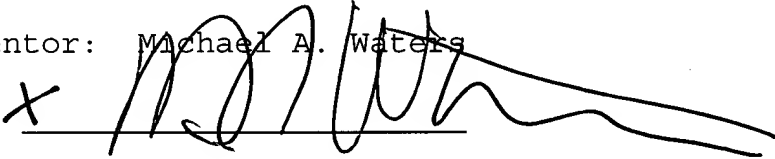
Donald A. Gregory, Esq.  
DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO MORIN & OSHINSKY LLP  
2101 L Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20037  
(202) 828-2274

The undersigned hereby authorizes the attorneys named herein to accept and follow instructions from the agents and/or liaisons of the undersigned and/or the assignee of this application as to any action to be taken in the Patent and Trademark Office regarding this application without direct communication between the attorney and the undersigned. In the

event of a change in the persons from whom instructions may be taken, the attorneys named herein will be so notified by the undersigned and/or any assignee of this application.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full Name of Sole Inventor: Michael A. Waters

Inventor's Signature: X 

Date: X 12/21/97

Residence: Barrington Hills, Illinois

Citizenship: U.S.A.

Post Office Address: 372 N. Bateman Circle,

Barrington Hills, Illinois 60010

PATENT

Docket No.: W5020.127

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Reissue Application of: )  
Michael A. Waters )  
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned )  
Filed: Concurrently Herewith )  
For: AUTOMATED SELF-CLEANING )  
LITTER BOX FOR CATS )  
U.S. Patent No. 5,477,812 )  
Granted: December 26, 1995 )

OFFER TO SURRENDER

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

The undersigned Applicant of the accompanying reissue application, based on U.S. Letters Patent No. 5,477,812, granted December 26, 1997, of which Waters Research Company is sole owner by assignment and on whose behalf and with whose assent the accompanying application is made, hereby offers to surrender said U.S. Letters Patent No. 5,477,812.

Date: X 12/21/97

By: X 

Michael A. Waters

PATENT

Docket No.: W5020.127

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

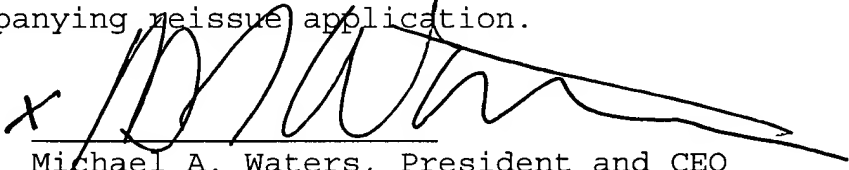
In re Reissue Application of:     )  
Michael A. Waters                     )  
  )  
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned        )  
  )  
Filed: Concurrently Herewith        )  
  )  
For: AUTOMATED SELF-CLEANING        )  
      LITTER BOX FOR CATS            )  
  )  
U.S. Patent No. 5,477,812            )  
  )  
Granted: December 26, 1995         )

ASSENT OF ASSIGNEE

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

The undersigned officer of the Assignee, Waters Research Company, of the entire interest in the above-referenced Letters Patent, U.S. Patent No. 5,477,812, hereby assents to the accompanying reissue application.

By:   
Michael A. Waters, President and CEO  
Waters Research Company

Date: X 12/21/97

# RECORDATION FORM COVER SHEET

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
Patent and Trademark Office

02-18-1995

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000001452

hed original documents or copy thereof.

1. Name of conveying party(ies):  
Michael A. Waters  
372 N. Bateman Circle  
Barrington Hills, IL 60010

Additional name(s) of conveying party(ies) attached? ☐ Yes ☐ No

3. Nature of conveyance:

- ☒ Assignment ☐ Merger  
☐ Security Agreement ☐ Change of Name  
☐ Other

Execution Date: January 6, 1995

2. Name and address of receiving party(ies)

Name: Waters Research Company

Internal Address:

Street Address: 782 Church Road

City: Elgin State: IL ZIP: 60123

Additional name(s) & address(es) attached? ☐ Yes ☒ No

4. Application number(s) or patent number(s):

If this document is being filed together with a new application, the execution date of the application is: Jan. 6, 1995

A. Patent Application No.(s)

B. Patent No.(s)

Additional numbers attached? ☐ Yes ☐ No

5. Name and address of party to whom correspondence concerning document should be mailed:

Name: Thomas E. Dorn

Internal Address: Dorn, McEachran, Jambor  
& Keating

Suite 2940

Street Address: 55 E. Monroe Street

City: Chicago State: IL ZIP: 60603

6. Total number of applications and patents involved: 1

7. Total fee (37 CFR 3.41).....\$40.00

☒ Enclosed w/the application filing fee

☐ Authorized to be charged to deposit account

8. Deposit account number:

(Attach duplicate copy of this page if paying by deposit account)

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9. Statement and signature.

To the best of my knowledge and belief, the foregoing information is true and correct and the attached copy is a true copy of the original document.

Thomas E. Dorn

Name of Person Signing

Signature

January 9, 1995

Date

Total number of pages including cover sheet, attachments, and document: 2

Mail documents to be recorded with required cover sheet information to:  
Commissioner of Patents & Trademarks, Box Assignments  
Washington, D.C. 20231

## ASSIGNMENT

WHEREAS, I, ..... Michael A. Waters .....  
 of Barrington Hills ..... County of ..... Kane ..... State of ..... Illinois .....  
 have invented a certain new and useful improvement in:

## AUTOMATED SELF-CLEANING LITTER BOX FOR CATS

for which I am about to make application for Letters Patent of the United States; and

WHEREAS, ..... Waters Research Company .....  
 a corporation organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the State of ..... Illinois .....  
 and having its principal place of business at ..... 782 Church Road Elgin, Illinois 60123 .....  
 is desirous of acquiring the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention, and in and to the Letters  
 Patent to be obtained therefor;

NOW, THEREFORE, to all whom it may concern, be it known that for and in consideration of the  
 sum of One Dollar (\$1.00) and other good and valuable consideration to me in hand paid, the receipt of  
 which is hereby acknowledged, I have sold, assigned and transferred, and by these presents do sell, assign  
 and transfer unto the said assignee, the entire right, title and interest in and to said invention as fully set  
 forth and described in the specification prepared and executed by me on even date herewith, preparatory  
 to obtaining Letters Patent of the United States therefor, together with all future improvements thereon  
 and additions thereto, and United States patent applications which may be made therefor and any and all  
 divisional, continuing and reissue applications therefor, and the patents which may be thereupon issued, and  
 any and all rights to file applications and receive patents in countries foreign to the United States, the same to  
 be held and enjoyed by the said assignee to the full end of the term for which said Letters Patents may  
 be granted, as fully and entirely as the same would have been held and enjoyed by me had this assignment  
 and sale not been made; and I hereby agree to sign all necessary papers in connection with the prosecution  
 and assignment of each and every of said applications.

AND I do hereby authorize and request the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks to issue the said  
 Letters Patent to the said assignee of my entire right, title and interest in and to the same for the sole use and  
 behalf of the said assignee, its successors and assigns.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal this ..... 6<sup>th</sup> ..... day  
 of ..... January ..... 19 95 .....

*Michael A. Waters*

State of ..... Illinois .....

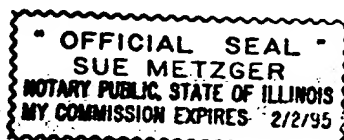
County of ..... Kane ..... } SS

JAN 12 95

I, ..... Sue Metzger ..... a Notary Public,

do hereby certify that ..... Michael A. Waters .....  
 personally known to me to be the same person whose name is subscribed to the foregoing instrument,  
 appeared before me this day in person and acknowledged that he signed, sealed and delivered said instrument  
 as his free and voluntary act for the uses and purposes therein set forth.

Given under my hand and notarial seal this ..... 6<sup>th</sup> ..... day of ..... January ..... 19 95 .....



*Sue Metzger*  
 Notary Public

REC-1323 FRAM 161

Best Available Copy

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 3.73(b)Applicant: Michael A. WatersApplication No.: Not Yet Assigned Filed: Concurrently HerewithEntitled: AUTOMATED SELF-CLEANING LITTER BOX FOR CATSWaters Research Company, a Corporation

(Name of Assignee)

(Type of Assignee, e.g., corporation, partnership, university, government agency, etc.)

certifies that it is the assignee of the entire right, title and interest in the patent application identified above by virtue of either:

A. ☒ An assignment from the inventor(s) of the patent application identified above. The assignment was recorded in the Patent and Trademark Office at Reel 7323, Frame 160, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

OR

B. ☐ A chain of title from the inventor(s), of the patent application identified above, to the current assignee as shown below:

1. From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_  
The document was recorded in the Patent and Trademark Office at  
Reel \_\_\_\_\_, Frame \_\_\_\_\_, or for which a copy thereof is attached.
2. From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_  
The document was recorded in the Patent and Trademark Office at  
Reel \_\_\_\_\_, Frame \_\_\_\_\_, or for which a copy thereof is attached.
3. From: \_\_\_\_\_ To: \_\_\_\_\_  
The document was recorded in the Patent and Trademark Office at  
Reel \_\_\_\_\_, Frame \_\_\_\_\_, or for which a copy thereof is attached.

☐ Additional documents in the chain of title are listed on a supplemental sheet.

☒ Copies of assignments or other documents in the chain of title are attached.

The undersigned has reviewed all the documents in the chain of title of the patent application identified above and, to the best of undersigned's knowledge and belief, title is in the assignee identified above.

The undersigned (whose title is supplied below) is empowered to sign this certificate on behalf of the assignee.

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true, and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements are made with the knowledge that willful false statements, and the like so made, are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001, Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issuing thereon.

12/22/97  
Date

[Signature]  
Signature

Michael A. Waters

Typed or printed name

President

Title